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If our friends who favor us with me publication wish to have rejected articles returned they must in all cases cond stamps for that purpos

On to Hawaii!

When a peaceful nation like ours begins war there is certain to be manifested much public impatience at the slowness with which the measures for national defence are devised and perfected. The body, however, that will deserve the first attention of this feeling until Hawaii has been locked fast within the Union, is neither the War Department, nor the Navy Depart ment, nor the Administration, but the Congress. It has before it a war measure of the very first importance, a bill to annex Hawaii and so to remove the anxleties, the restraints and the disadvantages continuing while the Sandwich Islands are kept out of our control.

When men are pouring in from all parts of the country to strengthen the army and the navy, it behooves Congress to heed the appeals of the President and of the high officers of both army and navy to strength en the country by annexing Hawaii,

Annexation, instead of involving a foolhardy sacrifice of thousands of immature troops and the consequent imperiling of the national cause at the behest of Impatient popular clamor, such as has been known before in our history, will be the deliberate performance of a deed which patriotism and farseeing statesmanship beg for as an immediate source of national strength and renose. We have been ready to move the United States flag to the Bandwich Islands since it was taken away from there by the Hon. WILLIAM McKIN-LEY's predecessor.

The sign of the United States cannot be stamped on the Sandwich Islands too soon.

Police Control of Elections.

With a view to securing equitable and impartial bi-partisanship in the control of elections, in accordance with the organic law of New York since Jan. 1, 1895, enormous powers were bestowed upon the Police Department of this city by the Legislature. Originally, the sole function of the Police

Department, so far as concerned elections, was to preserve order at the polls and protect the election officers in the discharge of their legal duties. The voters chose their own inspectors. The candidates or their representatives, the party managers, printed and distributed their own tickets. and the canvass of the votes was a function of the Board of Aldermen, or Supervisors, with the County Clerk, an elected official of the people, nowise connected with the Police Department, in charge of the count. By degrees, as opportunity offered and political expediency seemed to suggest, the supervision of elections was put into the hands of the Police Department, and since Jan. 1, 1895, there it has been almost wholly. Section 271 of the New York Charter gives the Police Board, consisting of four Commissioners, two of each political party, "cognizance and control of the Bureau of Elections," and makes this bureau a part of the Police Department.

The magnitude of this power is indicated by the fact that all the election officers. whether serving on registry days or on the day of balloting, or both, are appointed by the Police Department, and are removable districts, and 12,176 election officers are appointed by the Police Department. These lished by the Bureau of Elections, and paid from an appropriation which is a part of the Police Board expenses. Ostensibly they are divided equally between the two political parties; but, as the carrying out of this agreement devolves upon the Police Commissioners, similarly divided in party preferences and allegiance, the principle of bipartisanship is destroyed by giving one party control of the board to the detriment of the other. The entire system in its application to the 12,000 election officers is mullified also.

The Police Department has the selection of polling places and fixes the compensation to be paid for them. This amounts to about \$100,000, and under an impartial administration of the law neither party gets any advantage over the other from the

The department prints exclusively the ballots used by all the voters. It directs the form of printing, orders the arrangement of the names of the candidates and the acceptance or rejection of the certificates of the two parties submitted to it, and has the custody of the tickets before they are used and after they have been used. Voters are wholly dependent upon the fidelity of the Police Commissioners. Any unwarrantable omission of the name of a candidate, if not rectified in time, deprives the electors of an opportunity to support him unless under conditions which pro-

clude his election. The Police Department has entire and despotic control over the machinery for investigating election frauds, false registry, colonization, and repeating. If there is reason to apprehend that frauds have been committed, recourse must be had to the Police Department for investigation, report, and action. If the department were in the control of one of the parties, the other party would be without the protection which the State Constitution intended to guarantee, and the voters of that party

would be made helpless. Last year the Legislature went even further and accorded to the Police Department the right to canvass the vote cast, This authority is to be found in chapter 881 of the Laws of 1897, and applies to elections for municipal officers. For such canvass three members of the Board of Police constitute a quorum, and upon the completion of the canvass, the Mayor taking the place of the absent member. if three Commissioners only be in attendance, the President of the Board of Police Commissioners is to forthwith "transmit a certificate of election to each person shown thereby to have been elected to office." The original certificate of the election of Mayor VAN WYCK, under the operation of this law, did not come, as did that of his predecessors, from the Board of Supervisors, with the Clerk of this county

In other words, summarising the situs

Department supervises the registry of the voters, the printing, distribution, and custody of the official tickets, and the casting of ballots on election day; appoints all the election officers, to the number of more than 12,000, and determines the claims of candidates and parties to piaces on the official and only valid ticket; investigates charges of fraud, colonization, and repeating, and lastly, in the case of municipal officers last year, counts and canvasses the votes! Nor is it to be forgotten that under section 307 of the city charter it is the duty of the Chief of Police to detail or cause to be detailed on election day, at least two patrolmen at each election poll." This power of arbitrary control over the designation of 3,000 policemen was given the Chief of Police under the assumption, no doubt, that a Chief who was secure in his position o long as he did not violate the right of either political party, equally represented in the Board of Police, would not revive the condition of affairs which existed when the political "workers" of one party alone those all the police officers at the polls.

The whole system of police management of the machinery of popular elections is based on the bi-partisan principle established by the Constitution of the State. Relying on the sufficiency of that provision for the protection of all voters in their political rights, successive Legislatures have added so far to the duties exercised by the Police Department as to make any such violation of that principle in its organization as has been attempted by Mayor VAN WYCK a deliberate menace to the honesty of elections in New York.

The Armored Cruiser Bill.

The most interesting feature of the bill introduced into the House on Monday by Mr. PEARCE of Missouri is that which calls for five 11,500-ton armored cruisers. The provisions for ten more tornedo boats, fifteen destroyers and fifteen gunboats are also noticeable, but twenty-eight torpedo craft were provided for in a bill passed only the other day.

This bill calls for a class of armored vessels whose utility has been apparent in the present war. Our first-class battleships, splendid in fighting ability, are below the mark in speed. Even the Oregon, the fastest of our first group, beating the Indiana on her trial trip by over a knot an hour, is not a 17-knot ship, while the Iowa, though carrying a lighter armament, is only a fraction of a knot faster than the Oregon. The contracts for the Kearsarge, Kentucky, Illinois, Alabama, and Wisconsin call for 16 knots, although the ships may do rather better. On the other hand, the splendid speed of our two armored cruisers, New York and Brooklyn, was secured by carrying no guns above the 8-inch, with only 4-inch and 3-inch armor on the sides and 51g on the turrets, the barbettes being rather heavier.

The combination of speed, armor and armament which has attracted attention in Spain's Oquendo class seems serviceable, although it is yet to be tested in action. At all events, a speed of 20 knots, joined with 12-inch armor and 11-inch guns, is promising, especially on only 7,000 tons displacement. Mr. PEARCE's bill looks to that speed in the five ships it proposes, "the heaviest armor and armament ticable," and a displacement equal to that of our largest battleships, at a cost also resembling that of these ships. The discussion of the bill may lead to an understandng of the sort of armored cruisers we need,

The Guantanamo Incident,

The Cortes at Madrid has become excited wer an alleged recent use of the Spanish flag on our vessels, with a view to deception. One speaker desired that the powers should be notified of this offence; another declared that under international law our act was by it. In this city there are 1,522 election | piracy; a third held that our Government, | branches. It has kept alive a spirit of nadent, would not deserve to be treated as officers are amenable to the rules estab- civilized, while the suggestion of Count ALMENAS was that Spain should immediately resort to privateering as a punishment for our conduct. The alleged flying of Spanish colors is

apparently connected with the recent entry of two of our vessels into Guantanamo Bay, for the purpose of cutting the cable there Whether they really did enter under the resembling it, we cannot say; but it is certain that our navy regulations expressly declare that the use of a foreign flag on shipboard to deceive an enemy is permissible. The only qualification is that the foreign flag must be hauled down before firing is begun, since fighting must never be undertaken without first showing the national colors. This regulation is the more noticeable because it is no less clearly held by us that on land an enemy's flag or his uniform cannot lawfully be used for purposes of deceit. Our authorities even hold that if captured clothing is issued to troops from necessity, it should be so marked that the difference will attract an enemy's at-

tention at a distance. The general principle laid down by HAL-LECK is that good faith is essential in war as in peace, because otherwise war might become inhuman massacre; but, with that understood, stratagem to deceive an enemy is allowable. "Whenever we have expressly or tacitly engaged to speak the truth to an enemy, it would be perfidy in us to deceive his confidence in our sincerity. But if the occasion imposes upon us no moral obliga-tion to disclose to him the truth, we are perfectly justifiable in leading him into error, either by words or actions." As a specific illustration it is added that "men and ships are sometimes so disguised as to deceive the enemy as to their real character, and by this means enter a place or maintain a position advantageous to their

plan of attack." Such is war. The disguise of a warship as a merchantman in order to bring an unsuspecting enemy within range, and a false response in answering a bail, are familiar instances of tricks in naval warfare. When, for example, SEMMES, in the Alabama, decoyed the ill-fated Hatteras under his guns, he gave as his ship's name, in enswer to a call, "Her Majesty's ship Petrel;" and when he had assured himself of the nationality of the Hatteras by the latter's frank response, poured a broadside into her just as the Hatteras was sending a boat to board him. This was a ruse, and one about which the victims said bitter things, but it was

not called a violation of the rules of war. The exact ruse, if there was any, employed by our ships at Guantanamo Bay, remains to be learned from our official reports. Possibly the case may turn out as on a former occasion of bombardment without notice, when we justified our act by precedents, and then had later tidings that

the shore batteries had, after all, begun the effair by firing first. But whatever the facts regarding Guante tion as it now exists, the New York Police eafely assume that no act of our ships there was "piracy," that the powers will not remonetrate against anything done by us there, and that Spain may do well to refrain from privateering on that ground.

Three Constitutional Amendments.

Many joint resolutions proposing this or that amendment of the Constitution are introduced at every session of Congress. Rarely one gets beyond the committee to which it has been referred. Few go so far as passage by the House or the Senate. The latest amendment of the Constitution to be adopted and become law was ratified by the last State voting thereon more than twenty-eight years ago.

It is a somewhat curious circumstance that at the present time two important amendments affecting the machinery of our Government have each accomplished the first stage of progress in one of the houses of Congress and have crossed each other's path in going to the other house for concurrent action.

Within twenty-four hours the proposed smendment changing inauguration day from March 4 to May 4, thus prolonging by two months the term of the present Administration and the life of the next Congress, passed the Senate and went to the House; and the proposed amendment for the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people passed the House and went to the Senate. The first was adopted by the Senate on May 10, and on May 11 it was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary. The second was adopted by the House on May 11, and on May 12 it went to the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections.

Both propositions have been fully and ably discussed in the legislative bodies in which they respectively originated. When reported to the houses wherein concurrent action is required before going to the States for ratification they will be debated further. Yet public attention outside of Congress has been drawn in a very limited degree to these most important proposed changes in the organic law. There could he no better illustration of the extent to which the interest of the people of the United States is now concentrated upon international affairs and foreign relations, particularly with Spain.

Besides these two proposed amendments, a third has reached the second stage of progress. The Senate passed on May 5 the resolution proposing a constitutional provision devolving the duties of President upon the person elected as Vice-President in case the President-elect dies between election day and inauguration day. This makes no radical change in our system and is no departure from existing methods. It merely provides for a contingency which has never yet occurred.

The probabilities are that the last-men tioned amendment will become part of the Constitution, figuring there as the Sixteenth Amendment; that the Senate resolution in regard to the date of inauguration will fail in the House, at least in its present form; and that the House amendment changing the method of electing Senators will be rejected by the body which t especially concerns.

Obliterate the Division! The resolution introduced in the Presby

terian General Assembly at Winona on Monday, calling for the appointment of a committee to bring about the union of the Northern and Southern branches of the Presbyterian Church is a movement in the direction of national harmony, which should extend to every Church in America thus unnaturally divided. Nothing has hindered more the unity of the American people, without regard to past sectional differences, than this separation of great religious denominations by Mason and Dixon's line, as it used to be known, or into distinct Northern and Southern tional discord, and by means the most powerful of all, or through the religious sentiment.

Apart from the Roman Catholic Church whose strength at the South is not relatively great, the great majority of the religious communicants of this country are attached to the Baptist, the Methodist, and the Presbyterian churches, and it is in these three vast denominations that this unhappy geographical division is kept up. The sepa Spanish flag, or under some foreign flag ration in all was caused by differences of opinion and conviction provoked by the agi tation of the question of slavery and by the civil war. Thus begun, it has continued, as if North and South were two distinct peoples, though actually they are in a common Union and are indistinguishable parts of the American nation. The divisions of these Churches are along geographical rather than religious lines, yet no reason for the separation remains. The slavery question is settled. So far as religious faith goes, they are in complete agreement, such doctrinal differences as there may be in them not being determined by any merely sectional separation or representative of it. Practically, there is now no more justification for their division into Northern and Southern branches than into Eastern and Western or distinct branches for each State of the Union.

Perpetuating the alienation of the two sections of the Union formerly arrayed against each other in civil war, this division has been a peculiarly powerful obstacle to the restoration of the cordial sentiment of national unity which is so essential to healthy American development. It has kept up a false distinction between the people of the South and of the North by appealing to religious sentiment, separating their denominational machinery and giving to each branch a distinct entity, as if it represented an inherent political or racial distinction. They have conducted their religious agencies independently even where such separation caused unnecessary and expensive complications, as if they were Churches of distinct peoples, divided and at cross purposes in their national allegiance. The community of religious faith which should be so powerful in promoting social and political harmony between the North and South has thus been perverted into a means of encouraging sectional animosity and prejudice. Instead of meeting together in common assemblies, Northern and Southern Baptists, Methodists, and Presbyterians have been organized separately, and a distinction has been maintained which has no justification, political or religious, and is wholly pernicious. It is a relic of an evil time when men's

minds were embittered by an agitation which led eventually to desperate civil war, and when there was in this republic a mere semblance of national union between two actually discordant and hostile sections. The lamentable disunion then existing extended naturally throughout their social and religious life, and it was exacerated by bitter and violent discussion long-continued. Under such circumstance the development of a common national sentiment was made impossible. North and South were divided politically by geographical lines, and they were, to all in-

ents and purposes, distinct peoples. Now, heaven be praised! that old distinction, the causes of which go far back into the history of the American republic, has been obliterated. A common spirit of patriotism binds together North and South as they have never been united since the earliest days of the American republic. Accordingly the separation of Churches no longer corresponds to any division of sentinent between them. There is no more any North or South, West or East, Distinct Southern and Northern organizations of Baptists, Methodists, and Presbyterians are as foreign to the present unity and cordiality of feeling as would be the establishment of a separate Congress for each.

Obliterate these religious divisions there fore, so that the Christians of the North and the South may mingle in all their great religious assemblies as brethren of a common political household. Bury every ugly nemory of discord under the community of patriotic feeling which now animates both and binds them together as the indivisible and indomitable American people

Not Time Yet for An Accounting. The Administration is quite right in withholding any detailed statement concerning the expenditure of the \$50,000,000

appropriated by Congress. An itemized account rendered now would carry information that might be very valuable to the enemy.

Congress trusted the President, Democrats and Republicans alike when by a unanimous vote this money was put in his hands for emergency purposes; and the country has every reason to believe that it has been wisely and honestly spent.

Wild and irresponsible assertions to the contrary, and criticism of the Administration based on such talk, are alike unpatriotic and contemptible.

Of the seventy Chief Magistrates of New York city we have had Mayors old, young, tall, short, slender, stout, able, stupid, square crooked, blessed with all sorts of temperaments and educations; but before his present Honor we have never had a distinctly silly Mayor. We haven't had one who, being engaged in business requiring justification before the public, such as the expulsion of Police Chief McCullage and the appointment of DEVERY, was unable to impart a trace of gravity or plausibility to his excuses. In short, the Mayor's treatment of the Hess-Devery matter has been as inferior and ludicrous in manner as the job itself was rough. We fear that in putting Van Wyck , forward the Tammany organization hasn't been fair to the City Hall.

Since the war prevents the Rapid Transit Commissioners from asking for bids for the tunnel road in accordance with their recent promises, it is but proper that they should save to the city the amount of their salaries by re signing. No work, no pay, is a fair enough rule.

The Charleston, now on her way to Manila, will carry to DEWEY a cruiser that is prac tically the duplicate of the Baltimore, except that the Charleston has two 8-inch guns, whil the Baltimore has four. Each has in addition six 6-inch guns, four 6-pounders, two 3-pound ers, two 1-pounders, four Hotchkiss, two Colts, and a field gun. The Monterey will give our Asiatic Admiral something very valuable which be hasn't got now, she having two 10-inch guns two 12-inch guns, and a battleship's armor.

Strong as the Monterey is, she won't make our flag in the East strong enough. Guns fo the forts must be needed by DEWEY, too. If 10 inch are too heavy 8-inch will do very well if

Gen. MERRITT's gallant resolve that his return from Manila shall be celebrated by his eadventure into matrimony is an example well worthy of duplication by Rear Admiral Dewey But if the Admiral should at any time intimate that such was his intention, American girls must not all speak at once.

The fact, announced in THE SUN the other day, that a combination of six Trey manu facturers of collars, cuffs and shirts is to be formed should give serious pause to the bold beagles of anti-monopoly. Has an anti-monop olist a right to wear an object which has become the subject of a trust? If collars, cuffs and shirts are to become the subject of a trust, does not duty bawl to him from a thousand throats to bare to the storm his dauntless bosom, tear from his neck the badge of an abhorred despot. and wring his cuffiess wrists in agonized entreaty against the tyrant? In the case of a number of powerful statesmen less doubt arises. They never wear collars.

One of the ROTHSCHILDS has paid \$1,000 for a sterfly.—Florida Times Union. And Ham Lawis could have been had for almost nothing !

The few bicycle riders who are trying to abridge Boston Common by having it intersected by a blcycle path ought to be ashamed of themselves. The Common is too small already, and more than once it has been stripped of pieces of its precious soil; and yet there are always persons who want to lay further hands of vioence upon it. They belong to the too large class of ignoramuses who imagine that a park is like a beefsteak, made to be cut up and eaten. The fellows who want to ride on whirling wheels through the august if narrow precincts of the Common should be dumped into the Frog Pond, which should be filled with real water for the occasion, and in token of the extreme height of contumely the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company should fire a double volley of sarsaparilla bottles at the caitiffs struggling and eating water.

We trust that in their rigid examination of the volunteers the United States Surgeons won't be too hard on the puny fellows from the towns. In the civil war the men to endure and fight on were not so often the towering offspring of the Maine backwoods or the breezy plains, as the slender, cadaverous, and weak little fellows who went into camp from their cramped and

Doubtless full reports of the duels which Spanish statesmen are preparing to fight will show terrible loss of consonants; and all the vowels in Castilian will be borne shricking from the field in honorable pain. We see the flashing Bilbos blades and good Toledos, and watch al-most with awe the beautiful unlaundered shirt. The descendant of a hundred Moor-maulers and conquistadors has at least one shirt in his wardrobe, and he wears it proudly to the field of honor, while immense thronge gaze in fear at the strange object. The Spanish marksmanshi is of so poetical and unmathematical character that one of these hallowed garments will last hundreds of years if no rude beggar steals it. Anybody in Spain can afford to die. 'Tis the only luxury. The hidalgo will part with his life, but never with his shirt.

Germany Misropresented.

To THE EDITOR OF THE BUS-Sir: In an editoria seaded "The Sentiment of Europe" you criticise the French and German people. Allow me to say th is reason for the French to be friendly to the Latin race, but the German public is divided in favor of the American people.

Germany suffers from the same malady as the United States—"yellow journalism." It would be wrong to compare the character of the American people with this permicious journalism.

A GREWAY ANYSCAN. OUNER LITTLE JAPANESH TRAME. etto Chapes by Cardenave Long Stace Bend.

A large collection of arboreal plants trained in the artistic and curious style of the Japanese is on view at the American Art Galleries in Twenty-third street. They will be exhibited to-day and sold to-morrow and Friday. Some of these dwarfed plants have been seen here before, but sever in such variety and numbers as at present. They were all imported from Japan by Kusikiki & Arai of Tokio, and most of them have been for two years in the nurseries at Atlantic City. Some of them are quite remarkable exhibitions of the Japanese skill in sorticulture, and the fact that they are all in niniature adds greatly to their attractiveness. Some of the pieces were prepared by the best known gardeners in Japan.

tract most attention, not only because they are most numerous, but also because they are remarkably fine specimens. These diminutive trees, as perfect in every detail of form and color as a large and fully developed tree, vary in age from 115 years to nearly twice that time, and some of them are the work of men long dead. One specimen from the garden of the Count Okuma was trained by a famous gardener of Okuma was trained by a famous gardener of Tokio, who died during the last century. Another dwarf cedar, possibly the most valuable in the collection also from the garden of Count Okuma is now 215 years old, although it is only 3's feet high. It was the particular pride of Zaru-Cho, a Tokio master of tree training. Many of these cedars have been for half a century in the same pot, and others have been planted thrice as long. All of these are in porcelain pots of fine make.

There are numerous interesting mecimens

planted thrice as long. All of these are in porcelain pots of fine make.

There are numerous interesting specimens
from the highly artificial larches trained into
the form of cranes standing on one foot, turties
and ships, down to the minute plants growing
in the porcelain pots that may have held them
for ten or fifteen years, although they are not
more than two or three inches high. These contain different plants dwarfed by the process
which is the secret of the Japanese. More curious than any of the other exhibits are the attempts to reproduce bits of laudezaps. One of
these, not more than eight inches long by four
broad, shows a well-known promontory in Japan
with its ten house and a tree with ferns growing
about it. The tree, which is a maple, is not
more than six inches high
What the catalogue calls the most artistic
plece of the collection is a Yonosome over fifty
years old. It is growing on the root of a fern
tree that has been out into a squere, and on its
trunk is a tiny tree lifteen yearsold. The quain
exhibits, which have never before been seen

trunk is a tiny tree lifteen yearsold. The quaint exhibits, which have never before been seen here to such advantage, are well worth a visit for their own sake.

MENOCAL ON THE STAND.

Bear Admirals Brown and Walker Testify to Hite Qualifications.

Civil Engineer A. G. Manacal took the witness stand yesterday in his own behalf at the courtmartial which has been in progress for over two weeks at the navy yard in Brooklyn. At the time of his assignment to the Brooklyn Navy Yard, Mr. Menocal said, he knew nothing of the plans for the big dry dock. Leveller McGini was practically in charge of the work on the dock during his absence, and he had to rely on him as to the manner in which the details were carried out.

When questioned as to the manner of driving the piles, Mr. Menocal said that he ordered them to be driven from a level of 38 feet below the coping, but that Welsh Brothers, the contractors, protested and were upheld by the Chester Board of Inquiry. The board was of the opinion that if the dock was excavated to the opinion that if the dock was excavated to the floor level the sides would have to receive too much bracing, and that there would be no room to drive the piles.

Mr. Menocal will continue his testimony at to-

Mr. Menocal will continue his testimony at today's session.

Rear Admiral George Brown, who is now on
the retired list, came on from Indianapolis to
testify for Mr. Menocal, and he told the court
that from his experience with Mr. Menocal at
the Norfelk Navy Yard he considered him a
thoroughly competent engineer, industrious and
conscientious, a man who would never try to
cover up any fregularity. The witness said he
would believe any statement Mr. Menocal
might make, either under oath or not.
Hear Admiral John G. Walker also testified
to Mr. Menocal's thoroughness and efficiency as
an engineer.

an engineer.

Hefore Mr. Menocal took the stand his communications to the Navy Department in relation to the work on the dock and other documentary evidence, all tending to disprove the charge of neglect, were submitted and read,

Catalogues of Children's Books.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: A corresp Boston writes to THE SUN asking for a list of book suitable for a girl 10 years of age. In most public libraries may now be found catalogues of books spe cially adapted to children. The Boston Public Library at Copley square, and all of its branch libraries a well, are pientifully supplied with these catalogue which have been prepared with great care. They are seful not only to those who use the library, o parents, who, like your correspondent, desire to select reading for their own children. The books are classified, and the classios are well represented by special editions, which in many cases have been adapted and illustrated for young readers.

A girl of ten who has read all the books indicated by J. C. is in danger from reading too much. A child can overread as easily as he can overest. Too much and too varied reading matter often destroys the ability to concentrate the mind, and burdens the memory with disconnected facts and fancies which are worse than useless. A few good books, such as are mentioned by J. C., shou d'urnish sufficient mental diet for some years. A child's reading should be reatricted as well as selected.

Books that are lived with, thought over, and mentally digested are the books which will have most influence in forming literary taste and style.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., May 21.

M. C. O'H. select reading for their own children. The books ar

To you EDITOR OF THE BUN-Sir: Why has no on offered the charming "nonsense-books" of Lewis Carroll (Charles L. Dodgson)? Surely "Alice in Wonderland," "Through the Looking Glass." "Bylvie and Bruno" and "The Hunting of the Snark" ought to have a place in such a collection. EFFENDL

Good Boads Will Start the Wheel Trade. To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: I was much interested in your able article in to-day's edition upon the unfortunate condition of the bloycle trade in this With all the clover arguments the writer misses the main issue, which is the utter absence of ridable roads on this island. I know of dozens o riders among the class that can afford a new wheel every season who, wanting to ride every day, search in vain for a piace to rids. One quickly tires of the Boulevard and Riverside Drive, and where else can a

occinists of a second the second seco NEW YORK, May 21.

Baltimere Women at Public Dinners. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUR-Sir : Referring to your dates of the "innovation of associating women with men at a public dinner," permit me to say that at the eighteenth annual meeting of the American Academy sighteenth annual meeting of the American Academy of Medicine, which was held in Milwaukes June 3, 1808, the wives and daughters who had so companied the members were invited by a unanimous vote, to participate at the sanual recution banquet. Since then the ladies have been welcome guests of the doc-tors at the yearly table, and their presence has added greatly to the general enjoyment.

Baltimone, May 28. Charles C. Borrauge.

Report on the Tlut.

LAKELAND, Fig., May 22.—The Seventy-first is all right up to date, in fine spirits. It is doubtful if a iner body of volunteers ever went out than the Sev enty-first New York. It is brigaded with two regi-ments of regular cavalry and the Second Massachusetts, and can hold up its end in condition of camp

> Bugle Calls. From the St. Louis Globe-Demo From the St. Jours Grove-Demogram.
>
> I can't git 'em up!
> I can't git 'em up at all!
> The private's worse than the Corporal,
> The Corporal's worse than the Bergeant,
> And the Captain's the worst of all!

Go to the stable, All ye that are able, And give your horses some corn.
For if you don't do it,
The Captain will know it,
And give you the devil
As sure as you're born!

Oh, where has that cook gone, Cook gone, Cook gone, Where has that cook gone? Where the aitch is be-e-? Twenty years till dinner time, Dinner time,
Dinner time,
Twenty years till dinner time,
So it seems to me e-el

Come and git your quining, Quinine, quinine, quinine, Come and git your quinine, And your pills!

Boupy, soupy, soup— Without any beans! An' coffee, coffee, coffe The meanest ever se

OUTLOOK FOR ANNEXATION. Speaker Reed Bill Opposed to Hawall-Repub

WASHINGTON, May 24.—The anxiety of some of the friends of Hawalian annexation to secure action by Congress has caused them to misstate Speaker Reed's position toward the matter. He is still opposed to the subject of the Newlands dution, and after adjournment of the House this afternoon took occasion to set forth his views. Gen. Grosvenor of Ohio, during the meeting, had circulated a call for a caucus to be held on Thursday, for the purpose of taking steps to secure early consideration of the New lands resolution, and secured about thirty signatures. Among the signers was Mr. Dingley, Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, who has been quoted as oppos nexation, but who within the past week has told The dwarfed cedars, or Chabe-Hibs, will atseveral members that he favors it. His oppo

tion was due to a desire to have the Revenue bill disposed of before the annexation question should be taken up.

Gen. Groevenor and Mr. Dingley had an interview with the Republican members of the Committee on Rules in the Speaker's room. Mr. Reed reiterated his opposition to the proposition and the others retired after a brief conference, convinced that the Speaker would not consent to the consideration of the resolution. At first Gen. Grosvenor was inclined to drop the matter, but after consultation with the friends of annexation he said that they would consider until to-morrow the question of going ahead with the caucus with a view to influencing the Speaker by the declaration of a desire to consider the question of annexation.

Mr. Tawney of Minnesota, who has made a canvass of the Republican side of the House, any there are 189 in favor of annexation. Some of the strong Middle States, like Pennsylvania, Miohigan (including in that case the Democratic members of the delegation). Ohio, Illinois, Iowan Mr. Tawney of the delegation.

in (including in that case the Demo members of the delegation). Ohio, Illinois, lowe and Minnesota, he says, are unanimous in its support. Massachusetts has one opposing vote (Mr. Walker), Indiana two (Orumbacker and Johnson); New York counts seventeen affirmative votes. Among the Democrats there are ten or a dozen, possibly, Mr. Tawney says, who will vote for the resolution unless restrained by

GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S WORK.

it Congratulates Queen Victoria and Ra Money for Home Missions. WINONA PARE, Ind., May 24,-At to-day's see tion of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, John E. Parsons of New York offered

this resolution: Whereas, This 24th of May is the birthday of her fajerty, Queen Victoria; and

Whereas, This assembly of the Presbyterian Churc of the United States recognizes the many virtues that dorn the character of the noble woman; and Whereas, We do acknowledge with thankfulness the many acts of kindness shown to our missionaries

by her Majesty's civil and military servants; be it Resolved, That this assembly do congratula Queen Victoria and that a cable message be sent to he Queen of England, signed by the Moderator

Stated Clerk Roberts seconded this resolution, and it was adopted unanimously.

The Board of Aid for Colleges and Academies in its annual report said the board supposed on Tuesday, July 6, 1897, that it held a large Australy, July 6, 1897, that it held a large amount of property in cash and securities. The next day it learned that \$45.12 constituted its entire assets. The treasurer. Charles M. Charm-ley, had embezzied the remaining \$61,239.06. A friend lent the board \$10.000 for its immedi-ate necessities and members of the board and

ley, had embezsled the remaining \$61,239.06. A friend lent the board \$10,000 for its immediate necessities and members of the board and the synod made prempt and generous contributions, so that the board was able to close the year without a deficit. The year on the whole had been the most prosperous in the board's history. The expenses had been reduced 20 per cent. The number of students was 273, again of sixteen: the receipts were \$145,246 and the expenses \$102,461.

The Rev. Charles Thompson, the new Secretary of the Board of Home Missions, reported that the board owed \$167,829. The Moderatoread a telegram announcing that the Presbyterian Church at Clinton, N. J., had just given \$20,000 to the board. This aroused great enthusiasm, and Stated Clerk Roberts urged the Church to contribute a million dollars to the board. Amid much excitement Dr. Thompson announced that a Commissioner on the floor had contributed \$5,000. One or two ministers among the Commissioners then rose in their seats and, as well as they could above the cheers.

contributed \$5,000. One or two ministers among the Commissioners then rose in their seats and, as well as they could above the cheers, announced that they pledged themselves not to accept any support from the Home Board during the coming year.

The contributions received by the board during theyear were \$698,940, a decrease of \$93,464 from last year, when special efforts were made, for mission work \$421,748 was given, and for Sunday School work \$277,192. The total expenditures amounted to \$722,985. Under the board are 1.393 missionaries, \$4,682 church members, and 2,018 Sunday schools, with 123,622 pupils. Of the 1,632 churches under the care of the board, 10 became self-supporting during the year. The net deficit op account of the operation of the Presbyterian building in New York, of which the board is half owner, amounts to date to \$24,485.

LONG ISLAND P. E. DIOGESE.

Bishop Littlejohn Absent from the Convention The thirty-second annual convention of the

diocese of Long Island of the Protestant Episco pal Church met in the Church of the Incarnation, at Garden City, L. I., yesterday morning A good deal of routine business was transacted and officers were elected. Bishop Littlejoh who is confined to his home with a severe cold. was absent for the first time since his elevation to the episcopate. Dean Samuel Cox, D. D., who has been in the

sinistry for forty-nine years, acted as tempo-

rary Chairman. The Rev. Henry B. Bryon, D. D., officiated as Secretary in the absence of the Rev. Edmund J. Cooper, who is also ill. After the communion office by the Rev. William P. Bird, acting precentor, the canon of consecration was performed by the Rev. Henry C. Swenzel, D. D., of St. Luke's Church. The communion service in D was rendered by the full choir of the cathedral, led by its organist and director, W. H. Woodcock. The choir sang the offertory, "O come before His presence." The Rev. Heese F. Alsop, D. D., pastor of St. Anne's Church, Brooklyn, was chosen President of the convention. The Rev. James Clarence Jenes of St. James's Church, Brooklyn, was closen President of the convention. The Rev. James Clarence Jenes of St. James's Church Assistant Secretary. Alexander E. Orr of Brooklyn was chosen Treasurer. A report was received from Col. Coggswell, who was appointed a special committee to determine the advisability of having churches incorporated under the new statute. He said it would be beneficial to many churches if they were incorporated, but made no recommendation as to those churches having colonial charters, as he did not know what the charters contained. Furthermore, Col. Coggswell stated that the ownership of the property claimed by many of the churches is in dispute.

The session will continue to-day, when the reports of the various committees will receive consideration. The Cemmittee on Canons will report on the amendment proposed last year by the Rev. Edward G. McGuffy of Newtown to provide for the election of one Archdeacon for the whole diocose instead of four, as at present. officiated as Secretary in the absence of the Rev. Edmund J. Cooper, who is also ill. After

CHICAGO GAS TRUST SUED. James Bunne Livingsten of New York Seeks to Have a Receiver Appeint

CHICAGO, May 24 .- A bill asking for the apcointment of a receiver for the People's Gas ight and Coke Company has just been filed in the Circuit Court by James Duane Livingston of New York, a bondholder. The bill revives the New York, a bondholder. The bill revives the litigation in regard to the Gas Trust, and nine other gas companies are made defendants.

Mr. Livingsion asks that an injunction issue compelling the People's Gaslight and Coke Company to turn over to each of the other concerns with which it is allied its assets and franchises. It is also sought to prevent the payment of the annual dividend. The companies forming the trust subjects their original charters to forfeiture under the Anti-Trust laws of Illinois.

RAILROAD FROM SKAGWAY. Forty Biles of the White Pass Boad to Its Com

pleted in August. SEATTLE, Wash., May 24.-The schooner Concord, McLeod master, 157 days from Portsmouth, N. H., arrived here with twenty members of the Portsmouth Yukon Gold Company bers of the Portsmouth Yukon Gold Company, and will be joined by lifteen more from the same place when the expedition sails north.

The White Pass Hailroad Company from Skagway to Lake Bonnett advertises to-day for 1,000 laborers to work on the road, which is being pushed energetically. Rails and engines have been purchased here, and forty miles of the road will be completed early in August, when the trip from Seattle to the gold mines on the Yukon may be made in ten to twelve days.

Served to the Banks with Her Husband. Sr. Louis, May 24.-Mrs. Margaret Kaltmeier, who died here on Monday, had an unusual life history. She took the field to be with her husband, Louis Lang, and fought with him in the Gorman revolution in 1848. Escaping to Switzerland, they came to America and settled in Memphis, later removing to Arkansas. At the opening of the war Lang, who was an outspoken Unionist, was visited by a number of Confederates, who burned his dwelling and lynched him. OUR CANADIAN POLICE.

nes on Matters in Biginte to B

WASHINGTON, May 24.—Secretary of Day, British Ambassador Sir Julian Paunos and Sir Louis Davies of Canada are all hope of a satisfactory outcome of the conference Canadian affairs that will begin at the S Department to-morrow. It is thought that a of a commission with power to arrange a ba of settlement for all the important questle now in dispute between the United States a Canada. The fur seal controversy is regards as less urgent than before Congress made it is lawful to import the skins of animals taken b poaching, but the questions of the bonded printleges of Canadian railroads, the North American

can fisheries, and rights of way in Alaska are al of the utmost importance. Whether the subject of a general reciprocity treaty will be discussed at the preliminary con-ference or by the commission when authorised is not yet apparent. It is understood that the representatives of Great Britain on the com-mission will be Sir Julian Pauncefote, Sir Louis Davies, and probably Sir Richard Cartwright and that John A. Kasson, Special Reciprocity Commissioner, ex-Secretary of State John W Foster and possibly Assistant Secretary of State Moore will be the Commissioners of the United States.

ALDERMEN WON'T LET ORIS IN. ntens the Democratic Histority with the Interior of Ludlew Street Jatl.

Howard P. Okie, the Citisens' Union candi-late, who was declared elected Alderman in the Nineteenth Assembly district by order of the Appellate Division, did not succeed in taking his seat yesterday. The Board of Aldermen, which has a large Tammany majority, refused to add his name to the rolls until the Corporation Counsel could be heard from. When Mr. Okie presented his certificate from

the old Board of Aldermen sitting as County Canvassers, a motion was made to refer it to the Committee on Privileges and Elections with instructions to get an epinion as to its legality from Mr. Whalen. Alderman Woodward (Rep.) was en his feet in

an instant with an amendment to enter Mr. Okie's name on the roll at once and to direct the Clerk to call his name. A storm of objections arose on the Tammany

side of the house. Five Aldermen began to shout for recognition and President Woods was

shout for recognitien and President Woods was bewildered. Alderman Woodward's amendment was finally lost by a vote of,38 to 13, whereupon Alderman Sherman (Cit.) made a point of order that Alderman Okie's name had not been called, and the row began again.

President Woods declared Mr. Sherman ous of order. Alderman Woodward tried to get him to say that he refused to recognize Mr. Okie as a member of the board, but the President dodged and took refuge behind the statement that the board as a whole refused to recognize the new member.

Mr. Woodward then offered another amendment to have Mr. Okie's name entered on the roll, and the uproar was terrific. Points of order and howls for recognition came from all parts of the room. Above the din was heard the President's high, thin voice declaring that the amendment would not be considered.

Alderman Woodward appealed from the decision of the Chair and the board voted to sustain the President. 36 to 12, after which the motion to refer Mr. Okie's certificate to the Committee on Privileges and Elections was adopted.

Mr. Okie threatens to have the Aldermen punished for contempt of court.

"EXCESS DEBT" ALL VANISHES. Whalen Knecks off \$15,000,000 More and

The last of the vanishing "excess" over the lebt limit of the old city of New York discovered by Comptroller Coler was wiped out yesterday by an opinion of Corporation Counsel Whalen, who says that contracts, whose ultimate cost is based upon fixed prices per yard say, for uncertain quantities of work, such as excavations of rock and earth, should not be considered when estimating the liabilities of the municipality with regard to its borrowing capacity. This opinion, which affects such contracts as the Cornell Dam and the Jerome Park reservoir, will cut down Mr. Coler's "excess" by about \$13,000,000, leaving New York a borrowing margin of more than \$10,000,000 on Dec. 31 last instead of a deficit of \$24,000,000 as first stated by the Comproller in his report to the Mayor. The excision also means that every contract entered into by the Strong administration, including the one for the bridge across the Harlem River from 146th street to 149th, which was awarde on the night of Dec. 31 by the old Park Board of John C. Sheehan's firm for \$1,000,000, is legal and binding, and work upon all of them may proceed at once. This opinion, which affects such contracts as

proceed at once.

Prospective investors in city securities may look for a bend sale soon, for money must be provided to carry on the public improvements which have been held up since the first of January. Bonds to the amount of \$21,000,000, which were authorized by the old Board of Estimate, have not yet been sold.

CITY MUST PAY COSTS.

Since It Has Abandoned the New Park on the West Side. The motion of a number of property owners to

compel the city to proceed with the condemna tion of land for the proposed new park between Twenty-seventh and Twenty-eighth streets an Ninth and Tenth avenues has been denied by Justice Kellogg of the Supreme Court, but he holds that the city has no right to abandon the work without paying the costs to which the property owners have been put in the condemnation proceedings. A resolution was passed by the Aldermen on March 31 last and approved by the Mayor, abandoning the work on the ground that the city's debt limit had been reached. The Court orders a reference to ascertain what the city shall pay the property owners for their expenses.

NEW PLACE FOR FITZPATRICK. Creher's Former Secretary to Se Secretary of the Queens Serough School Seard.

Joseph H. Fitspatrick, formerly confidential scretary to Richard Croker, has been appointed Secretary of the Board of Education of the horough of Queens. Mr. Fitzpatrick is an expers accountant and has held important places for rears. He was at one time Secretary of the years. He was at one time Secretary of the Tammany General Committee and has held places in the Comptroller's office and other departments. A short time ago Mr. Fitzpatrick was appointed assistant clerk in Maristrate Connorton's court at Flushing, and he will leave there on June 1 to take up his new duties. He is 37 years old and married. Mrs. Fitzpatrick is a daughter of Caleb W. Mitchell, formerly President of the village of Saratoga Springs.

Mayor Van Wyck Not to Boylow the Veterans Col. James D. Bell, as the representative of the Grand Army of the Republic posts in Brooklyn, called on Mayor Van Wyck yesterday and invited him to review the Memorial Day parade in that borough. The Mayor said that, follow-ing the rule he had adopted in regard to all public ceremonies, he would have to decline.

900 Passongers in Quarantine. HALIFAX, May 24.—The Ottawa authorities have ordered the detention of the 900 passen gers of the German steamer Piss, among whom smallpox broke out. New cases have devel-oped. The steamer will be fumigated and in two or three days will be permitted to proceed to New York.

Her Piciades. From the Somerville Journal. A Bolivar woman, after burying her seventh busband, erected a monument to the whole lot, it consisted of a marble hand with the index finger pointing to the sky and on the base, instead of names, dates, &c., were the words, "Seven Up."

Volunteers from Hawait.

From the Pacific Commercial Advertiser. The movement to send a company from here for service with United States troops against Spain is pro-gressing satisfactorily. Nearly half the number of men required have had their names put down al-ready. Great care is being exercised by those who have the arrangements in charge. About twenty men have been refused for various reasons. Young men already drilled are being secured. A number of fine shots, whose services would certainly be in demand, are enrolled. The company will go only in case that it receives an assignment to active duty at once.

How They See It to Florida.

From the Tumpa Datly Tribune.
As the United States at present occupies a corp pheus position in the beiligerent world, as well as niellectual spheres, it is the height of improbability that any attempt will be offered calculated at inte coption without the due sanction and approval of